

SENATE RESOLUTION 120  
By Harper

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Mr. Jack Kemp.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause in its deliberations to salute those sterling individuals who, through their dedication to personal excellence and to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens, have pieced together the enduring fabric that comprises the grand tapestry of the United States; and

WHEREAS, through their special endeavors, these praiseworthy individuals have given unselfishly of themselves, their time, and their talents to perpetuate the public good and are a credit to their respective professions, their communities, and their families; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jack Kemp is most assuredly one such distinguished person who is deserving of special praise and commendation, as he evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all of his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, an Occidental College graduate, Mr. Kemp first gained national recognition during his 13 years as a professional football player; he played quarterback for the San Diego Chargers from 1960-62, before joining the Buffalo Bills. While playing for the Buffalo Bills, Jack

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Kemp led his team to the American Football League Championship in 1964 and 1965 and was named the League's Most Valuable Player in 1965. Mr. Kemp also co-founded the AFL Players Association and was elected by his fellow players to serve as the president of the association; and

WHEREAS, after completing his distinguished career in football, Jack Kemp stepped into the political arena and served adroitly as the Congressman for the Buffalo area and Western New York State from 1971-1989. During his illustrious tenure in the U.S. House of Representatives, he rendered admirable service as Chairman of the House Republican Conference; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kemp then continued his ascension through the ranks of the federal government and served with acumen and alacrity for four years as the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, in which important post he distinguished himself as one of the most innovative leaders in that position; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary career, Jack Kemp has been a leading advocate for strong economic growth, free markets, free trade, tax simplification, and lower tax rates on both work and investments; he was the first and the most influential voice in favor of enterprise zones to encourage entrepreneurship and job creation in urban areas and the expansion of homeownership among low income people through resident management and ownership of public housing; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kemp has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kemp currently co-directs the public policy organization, Empower America, which he helped to found in 1993 with Dr. William Bennett and Ambassador Jeanne Kirkpatrick. The organization is dedicated to the principles of expanding freedom and democratic capitalism, promoting policies to expand economic growth and entrepreneurship,

and advocating social policies that empower the individual rather than government bureaucracy;  
and

WHEREAS, in 1995, Jack Kemp served with probity as Chairman of the National Commission on Economic and Tax Reform; and

WHEREAS, he received and accepted the Republican Party's nomination for Vice-President in the election of 1996, running on the ticket led by Senator Bob Dole; and

WHEREAS, Jack Kemp is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional and dedicated public servant; and

WHEREAS, a civic-minded individual, Mr. Kemp generously lends his time and incredible talents to serving as a member of the board of Habitat for Humanity and as the Chairman of Habitat's National Campaign for Rebuilding our Communities; he has the distinct honor of being a Distinguished Fellow with the Competitive Enterprise Institute; and

WHEREAS, his many extraordinary accomplishments aside, Jack Kemp is most appreciative of the love and support he receives from his devoted wife, the former Joanne Main, their four children, and their 12 grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, throughout his distinguished career in public service, Mr. Kemp has been firmly committed to representing the best interests of his country and his fellow citizens; he is a never-ending source of inspiration to those who know and cherish him and is tremendously admired by his friends and associates and the American public as a whole; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded as a professional and citizen, Mr. Jack Kemp is the perfect example of a person totally committed to the highest ideals of public service and should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor and commend Mr. Jack

Kemp for his meritorious public service to this nation in numerous capacities and applaud his tireless pursuit of excellence in all of his endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.